

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application, with Claims 1, 4, 7 amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the rejection was made final, Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; and Claims 1-12 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of the allowable subject matter.

Further to the response filed on August 19, 2004, Claims 1, 4, and 7 are amended as suggested by the Examiner so as to correct the informalities noted in the Official Action. No new matter is added.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and the response filed on August 19, 2004, and in light of the previous discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

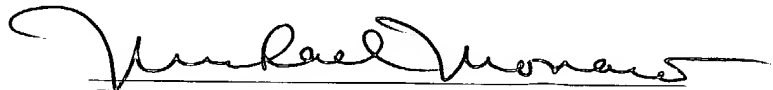
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